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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
Land Utilization Division
Land Use Planning Section

BULLETIN OF FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATION AFFECTING LAND USE

No. 26

JUL 16

Week Ending July 1, 1937.

(Primarily for the information of Land Use Planning Personnel of the Resettlement Administration and collaborating offices and agencies.)

Legislatures now in Special Session

Minnesota

Ohio

Legislatures now in Regular Session

Illinois
Michigan

New Hampshire

New Jersey
Wisconsin

I. FEDERAL LEGISLATION

GOVERNMENTAL REORGANIZATION

S. 2700. Mr. Robinson

To provide for reorganizing agencies of the Government. After investigation and finding that transfers, coordination, or reorganization are necessary to reduce expenditures consistent with efficiency, to increase efficiency, to eliminate duplication of effort, or segregate administrative and executive functions from regulatory functions, the President is authorized to transfer an agency or its functions to the jurisdiction of another agency, to re-group, consolidate, reorganize, or segregate any agency or its functions, or to abolish such agency; but this latter provision does not apply to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, or any existing Executive Department, General Auditing Office, Army Engineer Corps, Mississippi River Commission; and the President may not create any new agency to exercise any functions not expressly authorized by law in force on the date of enactment of this Act. Whenever the President issues an Executive Order to carry out any transfer or reorganization such Executive Order shall be submitted to Congress while in session and shall not become effective until after 60 calendar days unless Congress shall by law provide for an earlier effective date. If Congress shall adjourn before the expiration of such 60 day period, the Executive Order shall not become effective until after the expiration of 60 calendar days from the opening day of the next succeeding regular or special session.



Title 2 of this bill effects reorganization of the Civil Service by proposing a Civil Service Administration with an Administrator as Executive Head to be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate for a term of 15 years. Title 3 provides for the abolition of the General Accounting Office and the Office of the Comptroller General and for the substitution of a General Auditing Office and an Auditor General. The function of the General Auditing Office will be to make an audit of combined public accounts after payment, but prior to settlement by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget. In connection with the General Auditing Office there is to be a joint Congressional Committee on Public Accounts which is to receive the annual report of the General Auditing Office and after study submit such report to the Senate and House with such findings and recommendations as the Joint Committee deems advisable. There is to be created a Department of Welfare (Title 4) under the direction of a Secretary of Welfare for the purpose of promoting public health, safety, and sanitation, the protection of the consumer, the cause of education, the relief of unemployment, needy and distressed, the assistance of the aged and relief of vocational and rehabilitation of the physically disabled. The name of the Department of the Interior is to be changed to Department of Conservation. There is also to be created a National Resources Planning Board to be composed of 5 members appointed by the President. The Board is authorized to investigate, study and assemble basic information and materials appropriate to plans or planning policies for the development and utilization of the resources of the nation, both natural and human, and on the basis thereof to initiate and propose, in an advisory capacity, such plans and planning policies. The Board is further to obtain data and reports from and participate in the work of and to consult with any agencies of the Federal, State or political subdivision as well as any public planning or research agency. In title 5 the President is authorized to appoint 6 Administrative Assistants to perform such duties as the President may prescribe.

To the selected Committee on Government Organization June 23.

INTERSTATE COMPACTS

S. J. RES. 162. Mr. Tydings and Mr. Radcliffe
To grant the consent of Congress to the States of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia to negotiate and enter into a compact to provide for a conservancy district to consist of the drainage area of the Potomac River to be organized and maintained for the purpose of regulating, controlling or preventing pollution of the waters of the Potomac drainage area by sewage and industrial and other wastes. The President shall appoint from the Department of the Treasury a representative of the United States to participate in such negotiations and make a report to Congress of the proceedings of any compact.

To the Committee on Commerce June 10.



IRRIGATION AND RECLAMATION

H. R. 7313 Mr. O'Connel of Montana

To authorize an appropriation of \$6,000,000 for the construction of the Gallatin Valley Dam in Gallatin County, Montana, under the Federal Reclamation Laws.

Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation May 28.

II. STATE LEGISLATION

(Includes only outstanding proposals likely to be of interest to Legislatures other than the one in which the Bill is introduced.)

DRAINAGE

Pennsylvania H. B. 557 Mr. Weiss and Mr. Lopresti

To appropriate \$4,900,000 for flood control to be expended under the direction of the Water and Power Resources Board.

Approved June 5, Laws 1937, Act. No. 47a.

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION

Connecticut. H. B. 1545 Committee on Reorganization

To create a state department of Finance and Control under the supervision of a Commissioner. The Commissioner appoints with the approval of the Governor a Director of the Budget to assist the Governor in preparing the budget estimates.

Approved May 20, Laws 1937, Chap. 280.

INTERSTATE COMPACTS

Massachusetts S. 427

To ratify a compact with New Hampshire relative to flood control in the Merrimack River Valley.

Approved May 29, Laws 1937, Chap. 403.

LAND USE

Florida S. B. 651 Mr. Holland

To authorize the creation of soil conservation districts for the purpose of engaging in conserving soil resources and preventing and controlling soil erosion. This bill is similar to the Standard Soil Conservation Act of the Dept. of Agriculture. This law however exempts from taxation any property acquired by the districts.

Approved June 10.

PLANNING

Georgia S. B. 210. Mr. Knabb

To propose a constitutional amendment to the qualified voters to enable Glynn County to enact zoning and planning ordinances regulating the use of land.

Approved March 29.

Adopted at Special Election June 8, 1937.

PUBLIC FINANCE

Florida H. B. No. 956 Education Committee

The act prescribes a uniform system of budgeting for county and special tax school districts and specifically outlines the dates



and manner of procedure from the point of preparation of tentative budgets through the tax levy. Among the provisions governing expenditure and accounting for funds are included the requirement that state funds allotted for teachers' salaries be spent for that purpose, that interfund transfers be made only by permission, that outstanding unfunded debt be funded, that no new debt be incurred except as provided by law and that adequate sinking funds or retirement plans for funded debt be adopted. Authority for review and approval of budgets is vested in the State Board of Education.

Approved May 26.

PUBLIC FINANCE

Texas S. 185 Mr. Cotton.

To appropriate \$5,500,000 for school purposes to be allotted and expended by the State Superintendent under the direction of the State Board of Education.

Approved June 9.

REAL PROPERTY

Pennsylvania H. B. 647 Mr. Patterson

To create a State Board of Housing of five members within the Dept. of Health with an Executive Director, to study housing conditions and devise methods of eliminating bad housing, disseminate information on housing, the administration, construction and operation of housing projects by housing authorities, supervise such authorities, control and supervise limited dividend housing companies.

Approved June 5, Laws 1937, Act No. 359.

H. A. Hackley

